

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 177, line 6 to read as follows:

FIGS. 36 and 41 show the tray 20 as it has been loaded. Until loading of the tray 20 completes, the spindle motor 90 held on the traverse base 82, the traverse motor 94 and the optical pickup 99 remain retracted to below the loading path of the tray 20 for the purpose of avoiding interference with the tray 20 and the cartridge 1. With loading of the tray 20 completed, the tray 20 is positioned such that the spindle motor 90 will be located at the center of the optical disk. As the loading gear system 66 drives the slide cam 100 a little before this, the alignment pins 102 protrude through the holes 20a formed in the tray 20 and engage with the positioning holes formed in the cartridge 1. The cartridge 1, which is roughly restricted in the forward/backward direction and the right/left direction to the tray 20, is finally positioned relative to the tray 20 and the spindle motor 90 as a result of this engaging action. Meanwhile, the traverse base 82 ascends, the spindle motor 90 and the optical pickup 99 move close to the optical disk housed in the cartridge 1 which is placed on the tray 20 from a center opening 20b of the tray 20, and at the same time, the pressing levers (side arms) 143 press

the both central sides of the cartridge 1 against the tray 20 because of the force of the springs 143a of the pressing levers 143 as the traverse base 82 ascends, while the damper pressing part 130 projecting from the tray 20 press the rear edge of the damper 84 and the front edge of the ~~clamber~~ damper 84 moves close to the optical disk, whereby the optical disk is clamped to the turn table of the spindle motor 90. The front edge of the tray 20 is positioned on the inner side of the opening 60a of the chassis 60 at the loading position of the tray 20, and at about the same time as the completion of the loading, the state detecting pins 106, which are for detection of the back and the front surfaces of the cartridge 1 and whether it is possible to write, project toward the cartridge on the front edge side of the tray 20 in accordance with the operations of the detecting levers 104, and for this structure, there are a back surface detecting hole and a writing detecting hole (not shown) formed in the cartridge 1.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 178, line 13 to read as follows:

FIGS. 37 and 38 show the tray 20 as it is ejected, in which as the loading motor 61 is driven in the opposite direction to the direction during loading, the tray 20 is ejected. At this

stage, the slide cam 100 engages with the loading gear system 66 operates, the detecting levers 106, the alignment pins 102 and the traverse base 82 descend, the detecting levers 106 push down the state detecting pins 106, and the pressing levers (side arms) 143 ascend, so that the tray 20 moves and the damper 84 moves away as the tray 20 starts moving.